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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/797,654	03/09/2004	Pao-Hung leh	1071008	4215
7590 12/20/2005 PRO-TECHTOR INTERNATIONAL 20775 Norada Court Saratoga, CA 95070-3018			EXAMINER VO, ANH T N	
			ART UNIT 2861	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 12/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

EF

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/797,654	Applicant(s) IEH, PAO-HUNG	
	Examiner Anh T.N. Vo	Art Unit 2861	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.  
     4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
     a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Objection*

Claim 1 is objected to in that "A" at lines 3 and 8 and " : " at line 7 should be --a-- and -- ; -- respectively. Correction is required.

### *Claim Rejections*

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior arts are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-3 and 5 are rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Erickson (US Pat. 5,877,793) in view of Halasz (US Pat. 4,272,773).

Erickson discloses in Figures 1-2 an automatic ink refill system comprising:

- a plurality of ink containers (14) to correspond to an ink tube (16) or an ink cartridge (12) of an inkjet printer (2), each said ink container (14) positioned at a vertical side of an inkjet printer (2) and provided with a tube hole (71);
- a plurality of guide tubes (16) respectively inserted through said ink tube hole (16) of each said ink container (14), each said guide tube (16) having its front end (72) extending in the interior of each said container (14) to its inner bottom (38), a rear end (60) of each said guide tube (16) connected with an ink tube (62) of a nozzle (27) of a large inkjet printer (2) or directly connected

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with an ink cartridge (12) of a small inkjet printer (2);

- wherein a hollow connect tube (66) is further connected between the rear end (60) of each said guide tube (16) and the ink tube (62) of the nozzle (27) of a large inkjet printer (2) (Figures 1-2); and

- wherein each said guide tube (16) has a quantity adjuster (18) fixed thereon for controlling the ink volume flowing through said guide tube (16).

However, Erickson does not teach an ink tank that includes an ink hole closed with a cap and each said guide tube has its front end fixed with a retainer provided with many tiny holes for ink to flow through, and said retainer can secure the front end of each said guide tube on an inner bottom of said ink container.

Halasz discloses in Figures 1-2 an ink supply system comprising:

- an ink tank (22) that includes an ink hole (an unmarked hole that is connected to a conduit (28) closed with a cap (not shown) (column 2, lines 64-68 and column 3, lines 1-5)

- each said guide tube (24) has its front end fixed with a retainer (10) provided with many tiny holes (a filter 12 having a plurality of passages, see Fig. 1) for ink to flow through, and said retainer (10) can secure the front end of each said guide tube (24) on an inner bottom of said ink container (22) (column 2, lines 20-24) .

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching of Halasz in the Erickson ink supply system for the purpose of providing an ink refill hole to continuously supply ink to the ink container as needed and providing a fitting segment with a filter element having a plurality of holes or passages that can prevent contaminations from ink and also can secure an ink supply tube.

Claims 4, 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Erickson (US Pat. 5,877,793) in view of Halasz (US Pat. 4,272,773) as applied in claim 1 and further in view of Hall et al. (US Pat. 6,764,169) and Akermalm (Pub. US No 2004/0125182).

Erickson in view of Halasz disclose the basic features of the claimed invention were stated above but do not disclose each said ink container is shaped sealed, having a rubber stopper in its bottom and a tubular needle inserting in said rubber stopper and connected with said guide tube and said each ink container further has a hanger hook on its upper end.

Hall et al. disclose in Figures 9-10 an ink container for an ink supply for an ink jet printer comprising each said ink container (20) is shaped sealed, having a rubber stopper (104) in its bottom (32) and a tubular needle (162) inserting in said rubber stopper (104) and connected with said guide tube (169).

Akermalm. suggest in Figures 1-2 and 4-5 an ink container (3) further has a hanger hook (a hole on a top of an ink container 3 for hang up an ink container 3 through an element 12) on its upper end (column 1, line1).

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching of Hall et al and Akermalm, as modified, in the Erickson ink supply system for the purpose of providing ink needles and ink tubes for supplying ink from ink containers to an ink jet printer and also can hang up the ink containers on different locations.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Erickson (US Pat. 5,877,793) in view of Halasz (US Pat. 4,272,773) as applied in claim 1 and further in view of Akermalm (Pub. US No 2004/0125182).

Erickson in view of Halasz disclose the basic features of the claimed invention were stated above but do not teach an ink container further has a hanger hook on its upper end.

Akermalm. suggest in Figures 1-2 and 4-5 an ink container (3) further has a hanger hook (a hole on a top of an ink container 3 for hang up an ink container 3 through an element 12) on its

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upper end (column 1, line1).

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching of Akermalm, as modified, in the Erickson ink supply system for the purpose of hanging up the ink containers on different locations


***Citation of Pertinent Prior Art***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. These prior art references (US Pat. 5,136,305; US Pat. 6,247,803, US Pat. 6,460,985; US Pat. 6,929,358; Pub. No US 2001/0013884) cited in the PTO 892 form show an ink supply system which is deemed to be relevant to the present invention. These references should be reviewed.

***CONCLUSION***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Anh Vo whose telephone number is (571) 272-2262. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday to Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M..

The fax number of this Group 2861 is (571) 273-8300.

  
ANH V. VO  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

December 14, 2005